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Erma Bombeck Writers' Workshop

3-1-2024

Humor Writer of the Month: Lori Jakiela

Lori Jakiela

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Friday March 1, 2024

Lori Jakiela is the author of seven books, including the memoir *Belief Is Its Own Kind of Truth, Maybe*, which received the Saroyan Prize from Stanford University.

She received an honorable mention in the 2018 Wergle Flomp Humor Poetry Contest, and her work has been published in *The New York Times* (Modern Love), *The Washington Post*, the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, the *Chicago Tribune* and elsewhere. She writes a regular column, “Let Yourself Go” — hugely influenced by the late, great Erma Bombeck — for *Pittsburgh Magazine*.

A former international flight attendant, Jakiela directs the writing program at the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg; teaches creative writing in the doctoral program at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary; and leads many community workshops. For four years, she co-directed the Chautauqua Writers’ Festival at Chautauqua Institution.

She was a co-founder of Veterans Write, a program that offered free writing workshops to veterans and their families.